

## **Human Relations Commission Agenda**

The Human Relations Commission is a citizen commission appointed by the Fremont City Council. Human Relations Commission business is conducted in a public forum and operates within the provisions of the Brown Act. Information on the Brown Act may be obtained from the City Clerk's office at 3300 Capitol Avenue (phone 284-4060).

### **General Order of Business**

- |                               |                           |                          |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Secretary Check for Quorum | 6. Written Communications | 11. Commission Referrals |
| 2. Call to order – 7:15 p.m.  | 7. Announcements          | 12. Commission Reports   |
| 3. Roll call                  | 8. Consent Items          | 13. Staff Reports        |
| 4. Approval of Minutes        | 9. Old Business           | 14. Referral to Staff    |
| 5. Oral Communications        | 10. New Business          | 15. Adjournment          |

### **Order of Discussion**

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Human Relations Commissions questions, inquiries or discussion. The applicant, authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Commission and action taken.

### **Oral Communications**

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under Oral Communications. The Human Relations Commission will take no action on an item which does not appear on the agenda. The item will be agendaized for the next regular meeting or at a special meeting called in accordance with the terms of the Brown Act. The Human Relations Commission may establish time limits of presentations.

### **Information**

Regular scheduled meetings of the Human Relations Commission are conducted at 3300 Capitol Avenue in City Council Chambers. Meetings are held at 7:15 on the third Monday of the month. Meetings may be tape recorded at the discretion of the Chair.

Copies of the Agenda are available at the Human Services Department at 3300 Capitol Avenue three days preceding the regularly scheduled meeting.

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Human Services Department at (510) 574-2050.



Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda may be referred to:

Director	Suzanne Shenfil, Director Human Services Department 3300 Capitol Ave Fremont, CA 94538 (510) 574-2051	Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Human Services Department 3300 Capitol Ave. Fremont, CA 94538 (510) 574-2056
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*Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.*

#### **Human Relations Commission**

Dharminder Dewan  
Tejinder Dhami  
Beth Hoffman  
Paddy Iyer  
Lance Kwan  
John Nguyen-Cleary  
John Smith  
Veeru Vuppala, Vice-Chair  
Debra Watanuki, Chair

#### **City Staff**

Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director  
Arquimides Caldera, Deputy Human Services  
Director  
MaryLou Johnson, Recording Secretary

### **Mission Statement**

The City of Fremont's Human Relations Commission promotes and helps create a community environment in which all men, women and children, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, disability or sexual orientation, may live, learn, work and play in harmony.

**AGENDA**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014**  
**TRAINING ROOM**  
**3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B**  
**FREMONT, CALIFORNIA**  
**7:15 P.M.**

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**
2. **CALL TO ORDER**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of July 21, 2014
5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**
7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
8. **CONSENT ITEMS** (Routine items requiring no discussion; any Commissioner or member of the public can ask for a consent item to be moved to the regular agenda to allow for discussion)
9. **OLD BUSINESS**

9.1 Compassionate City Charter

BACKGROUND: At its July 2014 meeting, following a presentation by a the Compassionate City Committee, a subgroup of the Tri-City Interfaith Council (TCIC), the HRC voted to support the City's participation in the Compassionate City Program. The Charter for Compassion is based on the Golden Rule (treat others as you would have them treat you). According to TCIC, 41 cities around the world have signed the Charter. Staff has provided a link below to the TED talk on the Charter for Compassion, by Karen Armstrong.

The HRC agreed to support a first step of posting a dialogue about the program on the City's Fremont Open City Hall website (see link below), with the goal of getting Fremont residents' feedback on the concept of a Compassionate City.

Staff has confirmed that the City Manager's office is open to posting the topic on the [Open City Hall](#) webpage, which is a public forum the City has created on its website to receive public input on various current issues. Staff has also had a follow-up conversation with Sister Annette, a member of the Compassionate City Committee and asked her to provide further feedback on how the Committee would like to structure the questions and dialogue on the website.

E-Enclosure: [www.fremont.gov/opencityhall](http://www.fremont.gov/opencityhall)

<http://www.ted.com/participate/ted-prize/prize-winning-wishes/charter-for-compassion-karen-armstrong>.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive staff update and provide additional feedback.

9.2 Film Screening: Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine

**BACKGROUND:** On December 15, 2014, the Commission held a special meeting to screen the film Matthew Shepard is a Friend of Mine, and unanimously voted to direct staff and commissioners to carry out actions necessary to sponsor the film screening and dialogue. Matthew Shepard was a young gay man who was kidnapped, tortured and left for dead in a Wyoming field in 1998. The film depicts the journey of director Michele Josue, as she tries to connect with other friends and family of Mr. Shepard, in hopes of better understanding his life.

This item has been postponed by the Commission on consecutive meetings, first due to the Pride Parade, and then subsequently, due to Commissioner Hoffman absence.

**Enclosure:** None

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Revisit whether the Commission is still interested in screening the film.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendized discussion or taken action)

10.1 BoxART! Program

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Fremont has launched the BoxART! program in Fremont to create murals on 15 of the City of Fremont's Traffic Signal Control Boxes, commonly referred to as utility boxes. Artists throughout

Alameda County submitted 50 proposals for painting the boxes. Artists whose work is chosen and completed will receive a \$600 stipend.

Susan Longini, BoxART! Program Manager, and Laurie Manuel, member of the Art Review Board, will be doing a presentation on the artists' work that was submitted and highlighting a proposal that was submitted by a 14 year old art student which deals with human trafficking. Given the theme of the art, the presenters feel it might provide an opportunity for the HRC to get involved with this project, possibly through a sponsorship.

**Enclosure:** None

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Receive presentation and discuss if the HRC would like to support the BoxART! program, or support/sponsor a particular artist's proposal.

10.2 Make A Difference Day

**BACKGROUND:** For many years, the HRC has sponsored the City's annual Make a Difference Day (MADD) Project, which brings together hundreds of Fremont residents on the last Saturday of October to volunteer on projects throughout the City. This year, MADD will be held on October 25, 2014. Christine Beitsch is coordinating the event this year. Ms. Beitsch will be updating the Commission on current projects and volunteer efforts.

Due to past donations and a national prize awarded by Newman's Own Inc., the project has funding for this year, but staff is recommending the Commission continue to fundraise to provide supplemental funds for projects that may require materials, and to provide funding for future MADD events. Staff has drafted a solicitation letter for Commission review.

**Enclosure:** Draft solicitation letter

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive update from Ms. Beitsch. Discuss possible roles for Commission members, including fundraising efforts.

11. **COMMISSION REFERRALS** (Referrals from the City Council to the Commission)

12. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** (Oral reports on relevant meetings/events)

12.1 Promoting Economic Security and Success

**BACKGROUND:** Commissioners Hoffman, Nguyen-Cleary and Dewan, work to promote economic security and success, by implementing the following strategies:

- a. Bridging the Economic Gap

- c. Providing Affordable Housing

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive committee report on any non-action items.

12.2 Celebrating Diversity and Promoting Civic Engagement of the Community and Youth

**BACKGROUND:** Chair Watanuki, Commissioners Iyer and Smith work to celebrate diversity and promote civic engagement of the community and youth, by implementing the following strategies:

- a. Engaging Youth
- b. Advocating and Educating the Community and Youth about the RHC
- c. Supporting and Promoting the Diversity of Fremont

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive committee report on any non-action items.

12.3 Providing Safety-Net Services for At-Risk Populations

**BACKGROUND:** Commissioners Kwan, Dhami, and Vuppala work to provide safety net Services for at-risk populations, by implementing the following strategies:

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive committee report on any non-action items.

13. **STAFF REPORTS**

- 13.1 Attendance Summary (**Attachment 13.1**)
- 13.2 Calendar (**Attachment 13.2**) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.
- 13.3 BACS Grand Re-Opening of Senior Day Program and Wellness Center on Sept. 16, 2014
- 13.4 Grand Opening of Dominican Sisters and ASEBS Memory Loss Center September 23, 2014

14. **REFERRALS TO STAFF** (a request to have items placed on a future Commission agenda as an item of new business. A vote against means it will be dropped without consideration).

15. **ADJOURNMENT**